



CITRUS

MATURITY TEST RESULTS

September 12, 2001

These are the first maturity tests of the 2001-02 season. Samples representing all five areas of the Florida citrus belt were picked September 4-5 and tested in the Orlando maturity testing laboratory September 6-7. Sample groves and trees remain relatively constant from one season to the next. All fruit tested were regular bloom as there is very little late or off bloom fruit this season. Almost three-fourths of the grapefruit sample groves are located in the Indian River District, while most of the orange sample groves are from the other four areas.

The bloom this season was the most "normal" in the past three seasons. By late May, the summer rains had started and continued through August. The general growing conditions for May through August were very tropical and near ideal with high humidity, showers and thunderstorms. There has been an abundance of new growth on trees of all ages in all areas.

The acid levels for all types tested are lower than the past three years and generally close to the 1997-98 season. The ratios of the percent acid to Brix are higher than the past three years and again close to the 1997-98 season. The pounds of unfinished juice and solids per box for all types tested are very close to last September's.

Most groves have been well cared for this summer as caretakers realized that the current crop is about as normal as they have had in several seasons. Tristeza has taken its toll in many of the sour root older groves. Some of those blocks have been totally abandoned due to the lack of foliage and new crop fruit.

Page 2 separates the Indian River District from the other areas of the State for the 2001-02 season. The next Maturity Test Results will be published with the October 12, 2001 citrus forecast at 8:30 a.m.

Maturity and yield test results: Unadjusted averages for regular bloom fruit from sample groves for crop years 1997-98 through 2001-02

Type of fruit crop year	Sample groves	Acid	Soluble solids	Ratio	Juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent			Pounds	
Early Oranges						
September 1						
1997-98	120	1.31	9.36	7.29	45.13	4.22
1998-99	120	1.72	9.52	5.68	42.14	4.01
1999-00	120	1.73	9.35	5.53	41.09	3.83
2000-01	120	1.63	9.78	6.11	42.44	4.14
2001-02	120	1.37	9.64	7.22	43.16	4.16
Midseason Oranges						
September 1						
1997-98	55	1.56	9.12	6.00	45.19	4.12
1998-99	55	1.94	9.41	4.96	42.51	4.00
1999-00	55	1.99	9.13	4.69	39.47	3.60
2000-01	55	1.77	9.32	5.35	44.22	4.13
2001-02	55	1.58	9.37	6.03	42.87	4.02
White Seedless Grapefruit						
September 1						
1997-98	50	1.60	9.56	6.00	34.56	3.31
1998-99	50	1.80	10.08	5.62	30.83	3.10
1999-00	50	1.83	10.24	5.61	29.15	2.97
2000-01	50	1.82	10.14	5.58	32.47	3.29
2001-02	50	1.65	9.80	5.95	33.93	3.32
Colored Seedless Grapefruit						
September 1						
1997-98	50	1.54	9.63	6.27	35.08	3.38
1998-99	50	1.78	9.94	5.60	31.75	3.15
1999-00	50	1.75	10.07	5.79	29.02	2.92
2000-01	50	1.76	10.36	5.91	33.45	3.47
2001-02	50	1.64	10.03	6.13	34.68	3.48

Maturity test averages by areas, 2001-02 season, September 1, 2001

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent	Percent		Pounds	Pounds
ORANGES:						
Early						
Indian River Dist.	11	1.32	9.87	7.55	43.19	4.26
Other Areas	109	1.37	9.62	7.18	43.16	4.15
Midseason						
Indian River Dist.	12	1.55	9.25	6.01	42.52	3.94
Other Areas	43	1.59	9.40	6.04	42.97	4.04
GRAPEFRUIT:						
White Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	36	1.66	9.78	5.91	33.52	3.28
Other Areas	14	1.64	9.82	6.03	34.99	3.43
Colored Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	40	1.64	10.09	6.17	34.78	3.51
Other Areas	10	1.65	9.79	5.99	34.29	3.36